Montana Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2001



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Montana Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2001

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Introduction

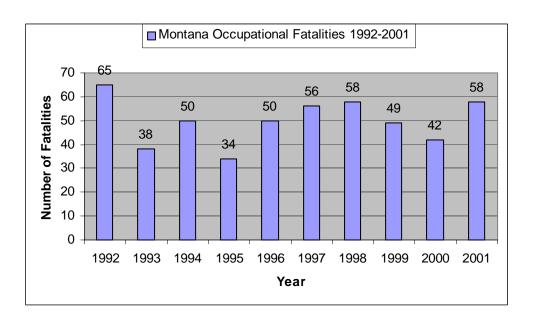
Thousands of workers in Montana are injured each year in work-related accidents. Some of these result in death. Many of the accidents could have been avoided if the employers and employees involved took proper safety measures to prevent them.

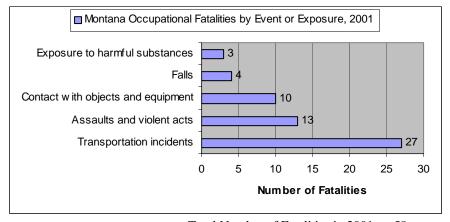
This report provides information gathered by the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program, Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, on fatal occupational accidents that occurred in Montana during 2001. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, and Title 29, Part 1904 of the Code of Federal Regulations state:

Within 48 hours after the occurrence of an employment accident which is fatal to one or more employees, or which results in hospitalization of five or more employees, the employer of any employees so injured or killed shall report the accident either orally or in writing to the nearest office of the Area Director of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. The reporting may be by telephone or telegraph. The report shall relate the circumstances of the accident, the number of fatalities, and the extent of any injuries. The Area Director may require such additional reports in writing or otherwise, as they deem necessary, concerning the accident.

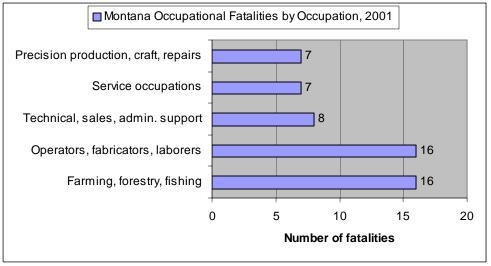
Summary

Overall, there were a total of 58 job-related fatalities in Montana in 2001. The following charts show different profiles of these deaths.

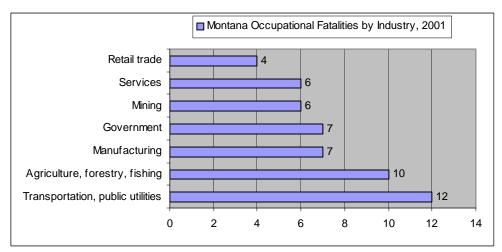




Total Number of Fatalities in 2001 - 58Totals include data for Event or Exposures not shown separately, that do not meet publication criteria.



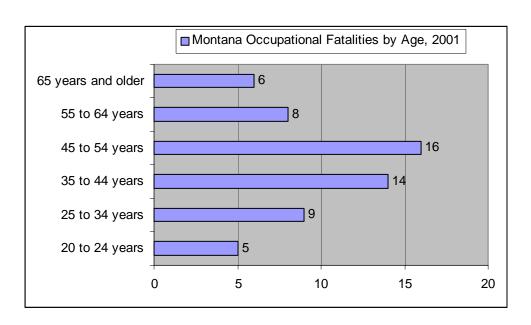
 $Total\ Number\ of\ Fatalities\ in\ 2001\ -\ 58$ $Totals\ include\ data\ for\ Occupations\ not\ shown\ separately,\ that\ do\ not\ meet\ publication\ criteria.$



 $Total \ number \ of \ Fatalities \ in \ 2001-58$ Totals include data for Industries not shown separately, that do not meet publication criteria.



Total Number of Fatalities in 2001 – 58



Total Number of Fatalities in 2001 - 58

Appendix A—Data Tables

- Table A1—Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure, Montana, 2001
- Table A2—Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides, Montana, 2001
- Table A3—Fatal occupational injuries to workers by status, by industry, Montana, 2001
- Table A4—Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Montana, 2001
- Table A5—Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, Montana, 2001
- Table A6—Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides by occupation, Montana, 2001
- Table A7—Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and event or exposure, Montana 2001
- Table A8—Fatal occupational injuries event or exposure and age, Montana 2001
- Table A9—Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and major private industry division, Montana, 2001
- Table A10—Fatal occupational injuries by primary and secondary source of injury by major private industry division, Montana, 2001

TABLE A-1. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Montana, 2001

			Event or exposure ² (percent)								
Industry ¹	SIC code ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions			
Total		58	46.6	22.4	17.2	6.9	5.2				
Private Industry		51	51.0	19.6	17.6	5.9					
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing		10	50.0	40.0							
Agricultural production-crops	01	6	66.7								
General farms, primarily crop	019	4									
Agricultural production - livestock	02	3									
Mining		6			50.0						
Metal mining	10	3									
Miscellaneous metal ores	109	3									
Miscellaneous metal ores, n.e.c.	1099	3									
Manufacturing		7									
Lumber and wood products	24	7									
Logging	241	7									
Transportation and public utilities		12	100.0								
Trucking and warehousing	42	9	100.0								
Trucking and courier services,											
except air	421	9	100.0								
Local trucking without storage	4212	3	100.0								
Trucking, except local	4213	6	100.0								
Transportation by air	45	3	100.0								
Air transportation, nonscheduled	452	3	100.0								
Retail trade		4									
Services		6		50.0							
Government ⁵		7		42.9							
Federal Government (including resident											

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE A-1. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Montana, 2001 - continued

			Event or exposure ² (percent)								
Industry ¹	code		Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment		Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments				
armed forces)		4									
Public Administration		3									
State Government											
Local Government											

¹ Classified according to the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987.*

rounding.

There were less than 5 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine a specific industry classification, though a distinction between private and government was made for each.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, and rail fatalities.

⁴ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and assaults by

⁵ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

TABLE A-2. Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides, Montana, 2001

		Transportation incidents (percent)						Homicides (percent)			
					(percent)						
Industry ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Total	Highway Incidents	Non- Highway Incidents	Worker struck by Vehicle	All other transporta- tion incidents	Total	Homicides by shooting	All other homicides		
Total	58	46.6	34.5			6.9	5.2				
Private Industry	51	51.0	37.3			7.8	5.9				
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	10	50.0	40.0								
Agricultural production-crops	6	66.7	50.0								
General farms, primarily crop	4										
Agricultural production - livestock	3										
Mining	6										
Metal mining	3										
Miscellaneous metal ores	3										
Miscellaneous metal ores, n.e.c.	3										
Manufacturing	7										
Lumber and wood products	7										
Logging	7										
Transportation and public utilities	12	100.0	75.0			25.0					
Trucking and warehousing	9	100.0	100.0								
Trucking and courier services,											
except air	9	100.0	100.0								
Local trucking without storage	3	100.0	100.0								
Trucking, except local	6	100.0	100.0								
Transportation by air	3	100.0				100.0					
Air transportation, nonscheduled	3	100.0				100.0					
Retail trade	4										
Services	6										
Government ⁵	7										
Federal Government (including resident											
See footnotes at end of table.											

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TABLE A-2. Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides, Montana, 2001 - continued

			Tra	nsportation in (percent)				Homicides (percent)		
Industry ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Total	Highway Incidents	Non- Highway Incidents	Worker struck by Vehicle	All other transporta- tion incidents	Total	Homicides by shooting	All other homicides	
armed forces)	4									
Public Administration	3									
State Government										
Local Government										

¹Classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987

distinction between private and government was made for each.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

 $^{^{\}rm 2}$ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

There were less than 5 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine a specific industry classification, though a

TABLE A-3. Fatal occupational injuries to private sector wage and salary workers, government workers, and self-employed workers by industry, Montana, 2001

Industry ²	Fata	Fatalities		ector wage ry workers ²	Gover work			nployed kers ⁴
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	58	100.0	34	100.0	7	100.0	17	100.0
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	10	17.2					9	52.9
Agricultural production-crops	6	10.3					5	29.4
General farms, primarily crop	4	6.9					3	17.6
Agricultural production - livestock	3	5.2					3	17.6
Mining	6	10.3	6	17.6				
Metal mining	3	5.2	3	8.8				
Miscellaneous metal ores	3	5.2	3	8.8				
Miscellaneous metal ores, n.e.c.	3	5.2	3	8.8				
Manufacturing	7	12.1	4	11.8			3	17.6
Lumber and wood products	7	12.1	4	11.8			3	17.6
Logging	7	12.1	4	11.8			3	17.6
Transportation and public utilities	12	20.7	11	32.4				
Trucking and warehousing	9	15.5	8	23.5				
Trucking and courier services, except air	9	15.5	8	23.5				
Local trucking without storage	3	5.2	3	8.8				
Trucking, except local	6	10.3	5	14.7				
Transportation by air	3	5.2	3	8.8				
Air transportation, nonscheduled	3	5.2	3	8.8				
Retail trade	4	6.9	4	11.8				
Services	9	15.5	3	8.8	3	42.9	3	17.6
Public Administration	4	6.9		-	4	57.1		

¹Classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual, 1987

There were less than 5 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine a specific industry classification, though a distinction between private and government was made for each

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

² May include volunteers and other workers receiving compensation

³ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

⁴ Includes paid and unpaid family workers, and may include owners of incorporated businesses, or members of partnerships.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

TABLE A-4. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Montana, 2001

Industry ¹	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	20	01
mustry	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	Number	Percent
Total	50	56	58	49	42	58	100.0
Private Industry	45	49	53	43	42	51	87.9
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	20	17	15	17	17	10	17.2
Agricultural production-crops	8	13	4	7	9	6	10.3
Field crops, except cash grains	5	13	4	6	9		-
Field crops, except cash grains, n.e.c.	5	13	4	6	9		-
General farms, primarily crop						4	6.9
Agricultural production - livestock	12	3	10	9	8	3	5.2
Livestock, except dairy and poultry	7	3	9	8	7		-
Beef cattle, except feedlots	7	3	9	8	6		-
General farms, primarily animal	5						-
Mining	3					6	10.3
Metal mining						3	5.2
Miscellaneous metal ores						3	5.2
Miscellaneous metal ores, n.e.c.						3	5.2
Construction	6	4	7		7		-
Heavy construction, except building			3				-
Highway and street construction			3				-
Special trade contractors			3		6		-
Manufacturing	4	6	5	10	3		12.1
Lumber and wood products	4	3	4	8		7	12.1
Logging			3	8		7	12.1
Transportation and public utilities	3	10		3		12	20.7
Trucking and warehousing		9	7			9	15.5
Trucking and courier services, except air		9	7			9	15.5
Local trucking without storage						3	5.2
Trucking, except local		9	5			6	10.3
Transportation by air						3	5.2
Air transportation, nonscheduled						3	5.2
Retail trade			4	4	4		6.9
Automotive dealers and service stations					3		0.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate			4				_
Services	6	7	7	4	7	6	10.3
Membership organizations	3						10.0
Business associations	3						_
Engineering and management services		3					
Engineering and architectural services		3					
Architectural services		3					-
Government ⁵	5	7	5	6		7	12.1
Federal Government (including resident							
armed forces)		5		4		4	6.9
See footnotes at end of table.							

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TABLE A-4. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Montana, 2001 - continued

Indicate 1	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	20	01
Industry ¹	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	(number)	Number	Percent
Public Administration		5		3		3	5.2
National security and international affairs		4					5.2
National security		4					
State Government			3				
Local Government					-	-	

¹ Classified according to the *Standard Industrial*Classification Manual, 1987

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

² Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

TABLE A-5. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, Montana, 2001

				Event or ex	posure ²		
				(perce			
Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions
Total	58	46.6	22.4	17.2	6.9	5.2	
Technical, sales, and administrative support	8	62.5					
Technicians and related support occupations	3	100.0					
Technicians, except health, engineering, and science	3	100.0					
Airplane pilots and navigators	3	100.0					
Sales occupations	3						
Service occupations	7		42.9				
Protective service occupations	3						
Service occupations, except protective and household	4						
Personal service occupations	4						
Farming, forestry, and fishing	16	31.3	37.5				
Farming operators and managers	8	37.5	50.0				
Farmers, except horticultural	8	37.5	50.0				
Other agricultural and related occupations	3						
Forestry and logging occupations	5						
Timber cutting and logging occupations	4						
Precision production, craft, and repair	7	42.9		42.9			
Extractive occupations	4						
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	16	75.0		18.8			
Transportation and material moving occupations	14	85.7					
Motor vehicle operators	12	91.7					
Truck drivers	11	90.9					

¹ Based on the 1990 Occupational Classification System developed by the Bureau of the Census.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

² Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, and rail fatalities.

 $^{^{\}rm 4}$ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and assaults by animals.

TABLE A-6. Fatal occupational injuries resulting from transportation incidents and homicides by occupation, Montana, 2001

			Trans	sportation inci	dents		Homicides			
				(percent)				(percent)		
Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Total	Highway Incidents	Non- Highway Incidents	Worker struck by Vehicle	All other transporta- tion incidents	Total	Homicides by shooting	All other homicides	
Total	58	46.6	34.5			6.9	5.2			
Technical, sales, and administrative support	8	62.5				37.5				
Technicians and related support occupations	3	100.0				100.0				
Technicians, except health, engineering, and scien	3	100.0				100.0				
Airplane pilots and navigators	3	100.0				100.0				
Sales occupations	3									
Service occupations	7									
Protective service occupations	3									
Service occupations, except protective and household	1 4									
Personal service occupations	4									
Farming, forestry, and fishing	16	31.3	25.0							
Farming operators and managers	8	37.5								
Farmers, except horticultural	8	37.5								
Other agricultural and related occupations	3									
Forestry and logging occupations	5									
Timber cutting and logging occupations	4									
Precision production, craft, and repair	7	42.9								
Extractive occupations	4									
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	16	75.0	68.8							
Transportation and material moving occupations	14	85.7	78.6							
Motor vehicle operators	12	91.7	91.7							
Truck drivers	11	90.9	90.9							

¹ Based on the 1990 Occupational Classification System developed by the Bureau of the Census.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet

publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

Table A-7. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and event or exposure, Montana, 2001

		Event or exposure ¹									
					cent)						
Worker characteristics	Total fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ²	Assaults and violent acts ³	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions				
Total	58	46.6	22.4	17.2	6.9	5.2					
Employee Status											
Wage and Salary Workers ⁴ Self-employed ⁵	41 17	51.2 35.3			7.3 	7.3 	 				
Sex											
Men Women	51 7	49.0 	19.6 42.9		5.9 	5.9 					
Age											
Under 16 years											
16 to 17 years											
18 to 19 years											
20 to 24 years	5										
25 to 34 years	9	66.7									
35 to 44 years	14	50.0	28.6	21.4							
45 to 54 years	16	43.8	18.8	18.8							
55 to 64 years	8	50.0	37.5								
65 years and over	6										
Race											
White, non-Hispanic	52	48.1	19.2	17.3	7.7	5.8					
Black, non-Hispanic											
Hispanic or Latino	5										
American Indian or Alaska Native											
Asian											
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander											

¹ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

² Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, and rail fatalities.

³ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and assaults by animals.

⁴ May include volunteers and other workers receiving compensation.

⁵ Includes paid and unpaid family workers, and may include owners of incorporated businesses, or members of partnerships.

TABLE A-8. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and age, Montana, 2001

Event or exposure ¹	Total	Age (percent)										
	Total fatalities (number)	Under 16 years	16-17 years	18-19 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65 years and over		
Total	58				8.6	15.5	24.1	27.6	13.8	10.3		
Transportation incidents	27					22.2	25.9	25.9	14.8			
Highway incident	20					25.0	25.0	20.0	15.0			
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	5											
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming	4											
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road	5						60.0					
Noncollision incident	10					30.0		30.0				
Jack-knifed or overturnedno collision	9					33.3		33.3				
Aircraft incident	4											
Aircraft incident, n.e.c.	4											
Assaults and violent acts	13						30.8	23.1	23.1			
Homicides	3											
Self-inflicted injury	6											
Suicide, attempted suicide	6											
Assaults by animals	4											
Assaults by animals, n.e.c.	4											
Contact with objects and equipment	10						30.0	30.0				
Struck by object	6											
Struck by falling object	3											
Falls	4											
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	3											

¹ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication

criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

TABLE A-9. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and major private industry division, Montana, 2001

		Private Industry ²										
Event or exposure ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Agricul- ture, forestry, and fishing	Mining	Construc- tion	Manufac- turing	Transportation and public utilities	Whole- sale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insur- ance, and real estate	Services		
Total	58	17.2	10.3		12.1	20.7		6.9		10.3		
Transportation incidents	27	18.5				44.4						
Highway incident	20	20.0				45.0						
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	5											
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming	4											
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road	5					60.0						
Noncollision incident	10	40.0				40.0						
Jack-knifed or overturnedno collision	9	33.3				44.4						
Aircraft incident	4					75.0						
Aircraft incident, n.e.c.	4					75.0						
Assaults and violent acts	13	30.8								23.1		
Homicides	3											
Self-inflicted injury	6											
Suicide, attempted suicide	6											
Assaults by animals	4	75.0										
Assaults by animals, n.e.c.	4	75.0										
Contact with objects and equipment	10		30.0									
Struck by object	6											
Struck by falling object	3											
Falls	4											
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	3											

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

² Classified according to the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual*, 1987

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

TABLE A-10. Fatal occupational injuries by primary and secondary source of injury by major private industry division, Montana, 2001

		Private Industry ¹ (percent)										
Primary source and secondary source	Total fatalities (number)	Agricul- ture, forestry, and fishing	Mining	Construc- tion	Manufac- turing	Transportation and public utilities	Whole- sale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insur- ance, and real estate	Services		
Total	58	17.2	10.3		12.1	20.7		6.9		10.3		
Primary source ²												
Vehicles	26	15.4				46.2						
Air vehicle	4					75.0						
Aircraftpowered rotary wing	4					75.0						
Helicopter	4					75.0						
Highway vehicle, motorized	19					47.4						
Truck	15					60.0						
Pickup truck	5											
Semitrailer, tractor trailer, trailer truck	9					100.0						
Plant and industrial powered vehicles, tractors	3											
Structures and surfaces	4											
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	4											
Machinery	6		50.0									
Construction, logging, and mining machinery	5											
Loaders	3											
Persons, plants, animals, and minerals	8	37.5										
Animals and animal products	4	75.0										
Mammals, except humans	4	75.0										
Horses	3											
Other sources	9											
Ammunition	6											
Bullets	6											
Secondary source ³												
Vehicles	5											
Highway vehicle, motorized	5											
Truck	5											
Pickup truck	3											
Structures and surfaces	7					42.9						
Structures	5											
Persons, plants, animals, and minerals	6											
See footnotes at end of table.				1	<u> </u>	L			<u> </u>			

TABLE A-10. Fatal occupational injuries by primary and secondary source of injury by major private industry division, Montana, 2001 - continued

		Private Industry ¹ (percent)										
Primary source and secondary source	Total fatalities (number)	Agricul- ture, forestry, and fishing	Mining	Construc- tion	Manufac- turing	Transportation and public utilities	Whole- sale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insur- ance, and real estate	Services		
Personother than injured or ill worker	3											
Tools, instruments, and equipment	5											
Other tools, instruments, and equipment	5											
Firearms	5											
Pistol, handgun, revolver	4											
Other sources	5											
Atmospheric and environmental conditions	5											
Weather and atmospheric conditions	4											
Ice, sleet, snow	4											

¹ Classified according to the *Standard Industrial Classification Manual*, 1987

"perpetrator" is the secondary source.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified."

²The primary source identifies the object, substance, or exposure that directly produced or inflicted the injury. For transportation incidents, the source identifies the vehicle in which the deceased was an occupant.

³ The secondary source of injury, if any, identifies the object, substance, or person that generated the source of injury or that contributed to the event or exposure. For vehicle collisions, the deceased's vehicle is the primary source and the other object (truck, road, divider, etc.) is the secondary source. For most homicides, the "bullet" is the primary source and the

Appendix B—Background of the Program

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Safety and Health Statistics Program, provides the most complete count of fatal work injuries available because it uses diverse state and federal data sources to identify, verify, and profile fatal work injuries. Information about each workplace fatality (occupation and other worker characteristics, equipment being used, and circumstances of the event) is obtained by cross-referencing source documents, such as death certificates, workers' compensation records, and reports to federal and state agencies. This method assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

The fatality census is a federal/state cooperative program, which is conducted in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In Montana, the Research and Analysis Bureau of the Montana Department of Labor and Industry collects the data in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Another BLS program, the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, profiles worker and case characteristics of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses that result in lost work time and presents frequency counts and incidence rates by industry. Copies of the 2000 Montana report on nonfatal injuries and illnesses are available from the Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry by calling 1-800-541-3904. For additional labor market information, access the Montana Department of Labor's Research & Analysis Bureau website at http://rad.dli.state.mt.us.

National data on occupational injuries and fatalities can be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics by calling (202) 606-6179. For additional national data, access the BLS World Wide Web Internet site at http://www.bls.gov/oshhome.htm. To request a copy of BLS Report 934, which includes several articles and highlights 2001 fatality data, e-mail your address to CFOIstaff@bls.gov or write to Bureau of Labor Statistics; 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Room 3180; Washington, D.C. 20212.

Appendix C—Technical Notes

Definitions

For a fatality to be included in the census, the decedent must have been employed (that is working for pay, compensation, or profit) at the time of the event, engaged in a legal work activity, or present at the site of the incident as a requirement of his or her job. These criteria are generally broader than those used by federal and state agencies administering specific laws and regulations. (Fatalities that occur during a person's commute to or from work are excluded from the census counts.)

Data presented in this release include deaths occurring in 2001 that resulted from traumatic occupational injuries. An injury is defined as any intentional or unintentional wound or damage to the body resulting from acute exposure to energy, such as heat, electricity, or kinetic energy from a crash or from the absence of such essentials as heat or oxygen caused by a specific event, incident, or series of events within a single workday or shift. Included are open wounds, intracranial and internal injuries, heatstroke, hypothermia, asphyxiations, acute poisonings resulting from short-term exposures limited to the worker's shift, suicides and homicides, and work injuries listed as underlying or contributory causes of death.

Information on work-related fatal illnesses are not reported in the BLS census and are excluded from the attached tables because the latency period of many occupational illnesses and the difficulty of linking illnesses to work make identification of a universe problematic.

Measurement techniques and limitations

Data for the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries are compiled from various federal, state, and local administrative sources, including death certificates, workers' compensation reports and claims, reports to various regulatory agencies, medical examiner reports, and police reports, as well as news reports. Diverse sources are used because studies have shown that no single source captures all job-related fatalities. Source documents are matched so that each fatality is counted only once. To ensure that a fatality occurred while the decedent was at work, information is verified from two or more independent source documents or from a source document and a follow-up questionnaire. Approximately 30 data elements are collected, coded, and tabulated, including information about the worker, the fatal incident, and the machinery or equipment involved.

Identification and verification of work-related fatalities

Because some state laws and regulations prohibit enumerators from contacting the next of kin, it was not possible to independently verify work relationship (whether a fatality is job related) for some fatal work injuries in 2001; however, the information on the initiating source document for these cases was sufficient to determine that the incident was likely to be job related. Data for these fatalities, which primarily affected self-employed workers, are included in the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries counts. A few fatalities were not included because the initiating source document had insufficient information to determine work relationship, which could not be verified by either an independent source document or a follow- up questioner.

States may identify additional fatal work injuries after data collection closeout for a reference year. In addition, other fatalities excluded from the published count because of insufficient information to determine work relationship may subsequently be verified as work related. States have up to one year to update their initial published state counts. This procedure ensures that fatality data are disseminated as quickly as possible and that no legitimate case is excluded from the counts. Thus, each year's report should be considered preliminary until the next year's data are issued. Increases in the published counts of national data based on additional information have averaged fewer than 100 fatalities per year or less than 1.5 percent of the total.

Federal/State agency coverage

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether they are covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or other federal or state agencies or are outside the scope of regulatory coverage. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and those released by other agencies should take into account the different coverage requirements and definitions being used.

Several federal and state agencies have jurisdiction over workplace safety and health. OSHA and affiliated agencies in states with approved safety programs cover the largest portion of America's workers. However, injuries and illnesses occurring in certain industries or activities such as coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and highway, water, rail, and air transportation are excluded from OSHA coverage because they are covered by other federal agencies, such as the Mine Safety and Health Administration and various agencies within the Department of Transportation.

Fatalities occurring among several other groups of workers are generally not covered by any federal or state agencies. These groups include self-employed and unpaid family workers, laborers on small farms, and state and local government employees in states without OSHA approved safety programs, (Approximately one-half of the states have approved OSHA safety programs, which cover state and local government employees.)